CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 2 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 6, 7, and 8 as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A device for detecting a fluid leak from a fluid supply connection to an appliance that is supported above an operating surface by a plurality of supports, the device comprising:

an elongated handle having a long axis that extends between first and second end portions; and

a head member having forward and rearward end portions and upper and lower surfaces; said rearward end portion being operatively coupled to the second end portion of said handle;

said handle and said head member being sized to be selectively disposed between the appliance and the operating surface;

said head member being shaped to have a testing arm with a long axis that extends outwardly in different directions than the long axis of said handle so that at least a portion of said ~~head member~~testing arm can be positioned first between the appliance and the operating surface and then below the fluid supply connection.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein the rearward end portion of said head member is shaped to form an extension arm with a long axis that extends ~~away from~~outwardly in different directions than the long axis of said handle.

Claim 4 (Original) The device of claim 3 wherein said head member is shaped to have a lengthening arm having a long axis which extends between said extension arm and said testing arm.

Claim 5 (Original) The device of claim 4 wherein the long axis of said lengthening arm is generally spaced apart from the long axis of said handle.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) The device of claim 4 wherein said testing arm and said lengthening arm are positioned with respect to one another so that said lengthening arm can be selectively disposed along a first side of one of the plurality of supports to position a length of said testing arm ~~behind~~ along a second rearward side of said one support.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) The device of claim 4 wherein said extending arm and said lengthening arm are positioned with respect to one another so that said lengthening arm can be selectively disposed along a first side of one of the plurality of supports to position a length of said extending arm ~~in front of~~along a second forward side of said one support.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) The device of claim 4 wherein the plurality of supports are positioned adjacent a forward side of the refrigerator and a rearward side of the refrigerator; said testing arm and said lengthening arm being positioned with respect to one another so that said lengthening arm can be selectively disposed along one side of one of the forwardly positioned supports to position a length of said testing arm ~~behind~~ along a second rearward side of the one forwardly positioned support; said extending arm and said lengthening arm being positioned with respect to one another

so that said lengthening arm can be selectively disposed along one side of one of the rearwardly positioned supports to position a length of said extending arm along a second forward side of said rearwardly positioned support and position at least a portion of said testing arm below the fluid connection.

Claim 9 (Original) The device of claim 1 further comprising a water soluble ink disposed on said head member.

Claim 10 (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein said head member is comprised of a water absorbing material.

Claim 11 (Original) A method of detecting a fluid leak from a fluid connection on an appliance that is vertically spaced from a floor by a plurality of forwardly positioned supports and rearwardly positioned supports, comprising the steps of:

providing a detector having an elongated handle and a head member, having forward and rearward end portions, disposed at one end of said handle; said head member being shaped to have a testing arm which extends outwardly from said handle;

manipulating said handle to dispose the testing arm of said head member below the fluid connection for a select amount of time;

manipulating said handle to retrieve said head member away from the fluid connection; and

checking the head member for the presence of fluid.

Claim 12 (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of shaping said testing arm to extend away from a long axis of said handle.

Claim 13 (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of providing the rearward end portion of said head member with an extension arm that extends away from the long axis of said handle.

Claim 14 (Original) The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of providing said head member with a lengthening arm that extends between said testing arm and said extending arm.

Claim 15 (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the step of manipulating said handle to dispose the head member adjacent the fluid connection is comprised of sliding said detector between the appliance and the operating surface in a generally forward direction and then sliding said device laterally to dispose said testing arm below the fluid connection.

Claim 16 (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the step of manipulating said handle to dispose the head member adjacent the fluid connection is comprised of first sliding said head member at least partially between the appliance and the operating surface, then sliding said head member in a generally lateral direction to position at least a portion of said testing arm behind a forwardly disposed support, then sliding said device in a generally rearward direction until at least a portion of said testing arm is positioned below the fluid connection.

Claim 17 (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of disposing a water soluble ink on said head member prior to the step of manipulating said handle to position said head member below the fluid connection.

Claim 18 (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of removing a portion of said handle after the step of manipulating said handle to position said head member below the fluid connection, so that little, if any, of the handle extends out from between the appliance and the operating surface.

Please add claims 19 and 20 as follows:

Claim 19 (New) A device for detecting a fluid leak from a fluid supply connection to an appliance that is supported above an operating surface by a plurality of supports, the device comprising:

an elongated handle having a long axis that extends between first and second end portions;

a head member having forward and rearward end portions and upper and lower surfaces; said rearward end portion being operatively coupled to the second end portion of said handle; and

a water soluble link disposed on said head member;

said handle and said head member being sized to be selectively disposed between the appliance and the operating surface;

said head member being shaped so that at least a portion of said head member can be positioned first between the appliance and the operating surface and then below the fluid supply connection.

Claim 20 (New) A device for detecting a fluid leak from a fluid supply connection to an appliance that is supported above an operating surface by a plurality of supports, the device comprising:

an elongated handle having a long axis that extends between first and second end portions; and

a head member having forward and rearward end portions and upper and lower surfaces; said rearward end portion being operatively coupled to the second end portion of said handle; said head member being comprised of a water absorbing material;

said handle and said head member being sized to be selectively disposed between the appliance and the operating surface;

said head member being shaped so that at least a portion of said head member can be positioned first between the appliance and the operating surface and then below the fluid supply connection.